

**** HODAP ANNOUNCEMENT ****

The Division of Community Development in the Wisconsin Department of Commerce is pleased to announce a new housing program known as HODAP - the Housing Organization and Direct Assistance Program.

Comprised of Bureau of Housing funds formerly known as Housing Cost Reduction Initiative (HCRI) and Local Housing Organization Grant (LHOG), HODAP funds are designed to provide direct financial assistance to reduce the housing costs of low- and moderate-income households. The funds may be used to assist with rent and security deposits, foreclosure prevention, and may even be used for downpayment and closing costs for homebuyers. Grant awards include administrative funds to support the proposed housing activities, and may be used to provide housing counseling as well as staff salaries and other administrative necessities.

Approximately \$3 million will be available to successful applicants. Organizations that are eligible to compete for HODAP funds include local governments, housing authorities, non-profit and for-profit corporations, and Native American Tribes.

Organizations with active HCRI and/or LHOG contracts will complete those contracts as scheduled.

Home-HBR application training sessions will be held in March 2005.

Application training for the first round of HODAP funds is scheduled for:

November 30, 2004

Wisconsin Technical College
1900 College Drive
Rice Lake, WI

December 1, 2004

Hotel Mead
451 East Grand Avenue
Wisconsin Rapids, WI

December 2, 2004

Olympia Conference Center
1350 Royale Mile Road
Oconomowoc, WI

All application training sessions will begin at 8:30 AM and will be completed by 3:00 PM. The fee for the session is \$15.00, payable at the door. Make checks payable to the Department of Commerce.

Persons who plan to attend should pre-register by November 23, 2004, by calling 608.267.6906, or emailing jstangler@commerce.state.wi.us. This will help to assure that there will be sufficient materials and space for each session.

All meeting sites are handicapped accessible. If other special accommodations are needed, please indicate that at the time you pre-register.

Applications will be available through the Department of Commerce after December 2, 2004. Applications are due February 7, 2005.

Additional information is available by calling Angela Ramirez at 608.267.6905.